

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 20473 081403Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 TRSE-00
OMB-01 IO-13 DOE-15 SOE-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 OPIC-03 /123 W
-----014464 092038Z /70

R 081357Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3482
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, EG, JA
SUBJ: JAPANESE AID PACKAGE FOR EGYPT

REF: (A) TOKYO 16023, (B) CAIRO 19699 (NOTAL)

1. ALL ARABIC DAILIES SEPTEMBER 6 CARRIED ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW JAPANESE AID LOAN TO EGYPT OF \$184 MILLION (RISE FROM ORIGINALLY-ANNOUNCED \$150 MILLION PACKAGE RESULTS FROM INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS), NOTING THAT FIFTY PER CENT OF NEW PROGRAM WOULD BE ALLOCATED TO COMMODITY IMPORTS. AMOUNT IN JAPANESE YEN IS REPORTEDLY 35 BILLION.
2. IN DISTINCT CONTRAST TO GOJ MFA REPORT NOTED REF A, LOCAL JAPANESE EMBASSY OFFICIAL INDICATED TO EMBOFF IN CONVERSATION SEPTEMBER 7 THAT PRESS ACCOUNT IS ESSENTIALLY ACCURATE AND THIS IS PLANNED 1978 AID PACKAGE FOR EGYPT. JAPANESE POSTPONED ANNOUNCEMENT EARLIER THIS YEAR DUE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RELATIVELY LATE TIMING OF JUNE IBRD CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING. ACCORDING SOURCE, GOJ MADE DECISION WAIT FOR PM FUKUDA VISIT TO EGYPT SCHEDULED IN EARLY FALL. CAMP DAVID PEACE TALKS CONFLICTED WITH PM'S VISIT AND CAUSED FURTHER DELAY, BUT LOCAL JAPANESE EMBOFF BELIEVES PROGRAM WILL BE ANNOUNCED BEFORE END 1978. LATEST PROPOSAL UNDER CONSIDERATION IS TO INVITE MINECON EL SAYEH TO VISIT

TOKYO IN LATE OCTOBER TO SIGN AGREEMENT. THIS NOT FIRM
YET DUE TO JAPANESE EMBASSY CONCERNS THAT EL SAYEH MIGHT
BE DUMPED IN ANTICIPATED CABINET RESHUFFLE IN OCTOBER.
THUS THEY ARE BIDDING TIME UNTIL THEY HAVE CLEARER READING
ON POSSIBLE CABINET CHANGES.

3. SOURCE COMMENTED THAT FIGURE IS IN 30 - 35 BILLION
YEN RANGE AND ALREADY COMMITTED. DISBURSEMENTS, HOWEVER,
WILL PROBABLY BEGIN IN 1979. HE REITERATED PRESS ANNOUNCE-
MENT AND OUR EARLIER REPORT (REF B) THAT AT LEAST FIFTY
PER CENT OF FUNDS WOULD BE EARMARKED FOR BOP ASSISTANCE.
EMBASSY OFFICIAL FURTHER NOTED THAT GOJ WILL FOCUS ON
1979 AID COMMITMENT LEVEL DURING FIRST QUARTER NEXT YEAR.
MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

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